

Appl. No. 09/672,879

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 19 is amended as follows:

19. (Amended) A receiving beam-forming apparatus comprising:  
a plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements arranged on a predetermined form;  
a plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements receiving echo signals, where the  
transducer elements are sampled at a specific scanning frequency, forming sample data  
for a scanning cycle, where a scanning cycle is dependent on the scanning frequency;  
a memory which stores the sample data from multiple scanning cycles; and  
a beamformer which forms a receiving beam in a specific direction using the  
sample data.